

Appl. No. 09/463,082
Amdt. Dated November 12, 2003 OR TO BE DETERMINED
Reply to Office Action Of July 14, 2003

11/12/03
S. Barani
① diff. of w
graphitic C + cellulose
→ in feed from H₂O + cellulose

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 31 (currently amended): A method for the *in vivo* detection of fibrin, said method comprising the steps of:

administering to said patient an effective amount of a detectable reagent comprising discrete particles dispersed in a pharmaceutically or veterinarily acceptable carrier, diluent, excipient, adjuvant or any combination thereof, wherein said particles comprise a detectable marker encased in at least two layers of carbon, wherein the outer surface of said particles comprises graphitic carbon which allows for a stable chemical association with an aqueous medium and wherein upon administration of said reagent said particles are dispersed in the aqueous medium and form a stable colloid;

binding said particles to said fibrin; and

detecting the presence of said detectable marker in said patient.

33. (Previously amended) The method according to claim 31, wherein the outer surface of each of said particles is hydrophilic.
34. (original) The method according to claim 31, wherein the carrier is an aqueous solution.
35. (original) The method according to claim 34, wherein the aqueous solution is 5% glucose in water.

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61. (original) The method according to claim 31, wherein a surface of said particles is coated with a surfactant coating that increases the binding efficiency of said coated particles with fibrin relative to uncoated particles.
64. (original) The method of claim 31 wherein said particles form a nanocolloid upon administration of said detectable reagent.
68. (original) The method of claim 61, wherein said surfactant coating comprises $C_{16}EO_6$.
71. (original) The method according to claim 31 wherein the outer surface of each of said particles is hydrolyzed graphite.
72. (Cancelled)